



Ref: 202208/1122

12 September 2022

Reply to request for information under the Freedom of Information Act	
Your ref	Email of 23 August 2022
Request	I am writing to request the following information regarding the Economics and Management finals in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022: 1.) the internal examiners' report of the examinations, including reports from all the relevant subject boards; and 2.) the mean, standard deviation, maximum and minimum mark of all papers, including the theses.

Dear Mr Derben,

I write in reply to your email requesting the information detailed above.

1. Please find the examiners reports attached for the years 2018 to 2021 inclusive.

We have redacted any information that might identify individuals, whether students, members of staff or external examiners, where we consider this information to be exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOIA. Section 40(2) provides an exemption from disclosure for information that is the personal data of an individual other than the requester, where disclosure would breach any of the data protection principles in Article 5 of the GDPR. We consider that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle, which requires that personal data is processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would be unfair to the individuals concerned, because it would be contrary to their reasonable and legitimate expectations. They would not reasonably expect that information about their role in the administration of an examination (in the case of members of staff and external examiners) or their performance in an exam (in the case of students) would be made public under the FOIA without their consent. Consequently, there would be no lawful basis to disclose the information under Article 6.1(a) of the GDPR.

The exemption in section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the public interest test provided for in section 2(2)(b) of the FOIA. To the extent that the public interest is relevant in this case, the University considers it is satisfied by the attached information and that the disclosure of names or other identifying information is not necessary to meet a legitimate public interest that would outweigh the rights of the individual(s) involved.

Please note that the attached information should not be copied, reproduced or used except in accordance with the law of copyright. In particular, any re-use for commercial purposes would require the permission of the University and/or any other copyright holders.

The examiners reports for 2022 are not currently available. It is anticipated that they will be published in November 2022, at which point you may wish to submit a further FOI to receive these reports.

2. The statistics requested relating to examination marks are shown in the annex to this letter.

We have redacted data where it relates to fewer than five persons in order to remove any risk that those with access to other information or knowledge (e.g. those who took the same exam) might be able to identify individuals and learn new information about them, namely, their score, or an approximation of their score, for the exam in question. In taking this measure, we are applying the exemption in section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Section 40(2) provides an exemption from disclosure for information that is the personal data of an individual other than the requester, where disclosure would breach any of the data protection principles in Article 5 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). We consider that disclosure of the information requested where it relates to a small number of individuals would breach the first data protection principle, which requires that personal data is processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would be unfair to the individuals concerned, as it would be contrary to their reasonable and legitimate expectations. They would not reasonably expect that information relating to their performance in an examination would be made public under the FOIA without their consent.

For the disclosure of personal data to be lawful, it must have a lawful basis under Article 6 of the GDPR. There are six possible lawful bases in Article 6; we do not consider that any of them would be satisfied in respect of the disclosure.

The exemption in section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the public interest test provided for in section 2(2)(b) of the FOIA. To the extent that the public interest is relevant in this case, the University considers it is satisfied by the information provided.

INTERNAL REVIEW

If you are dissatisfied with this reply, you may ask the University to review it by e-mailing foi@admin.ox.ac.uk. A request for internal review should be submitted no later than 40 working days from the date of this letter.

THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

If, after the internal review, you are still dissatisfied, you have the right under FOIA to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether your request has been dealt with in accordance with the FOIA. You can do this online using the [Information Commissioner's complaints portal](#).

Yours sincerely

FOI Oxford
Information Compliance Team

ANNEX

Assessment	Average	Standard Deviation	Maximum	Minimum
Accounting				
2017/18	65.8	4.8	76	55
2018/19	66.1	5.2	77	55
2019/20	70.1	6.1	82	60
2020/21	63.4	7.9	84	43
2021/22	59.6	7.3	71	42
Behavioural and Experimental Economics				
2017/18	66.4	4.5	73	60
2018/19	*	*	*	*
2019/20	62.3	2.9	66	57
2020/21	66.6	2.1	69	63
2021/22	65.3	4.6	76	61
British Economic History since 1870				
2017/18	64.5	4.0	70	59
Development of the World Economy since 1800				
2018/19	67.8	3.5	72	63
2019/20	65.7	1.7	70	63
2020/21	65.8	2.0	70	62
2021/22	68.1	2.7	71	63
Econometrics				
2017/18	62.5	12.0	82	38
2018/19	67.4	13.1	88	39
2019/20	65.2	7.4	76	55
2020/21	68.4	12.2	88	43
2021/22	63.6	9.6	87	45
Economics of Developing Countries				
2017/18	65.7	5.6	74	50
2018/19	65.2	3.6	71	58
2019/20	68.5	4.8	77	58
2020/21	65.2	2.6	70	63
2021/22	67.8	1.9	72	65
Economics of Industry				
2017/18	65.7	5.5	77	56
2018/19	65.9	5.0	74	57
2019/20	67.8	4.2	75	60
2020/21	68.3	3.4	74	63
2021/22	69.1	4.4	76	62
Entrepreneurship and Innovation				
2017/18	66.2	3.1	75	63

2018/19	68.6	2.8	73	64
2019/20	68.8	5.3	78	55
2020/21	70.5	5.0	83	58
2021/22	65.1	7.9	73	40
Finance				
2017/18	65.9	3.7	73	53
2018/19	67.7	2.7	74	62
2019/20	63.8	5.0	76	51
2020/21	66.8	4.0	75	55
2021/22	62.7	9.2	78	9
Game Theory				
2017/18	66.1	9.9	79	50
2018/19	65.2	7.7	76	50
2019/20	65.2	10.9	80	51
2020/21	68.3	9.6	83	46
2021/22	65.7	12.5	88	40
Global Business History				
2020/21	69.1	5.5	78	62
2021/22	64.6	7.8	75	42
International Economics				
2017/18	*	*	*	*
2018/19	*	*	*	*
2020/21	*	*	*	*
2021/22	66.2	3.3	71	60
Labour Economics and Industrial Relations				
2017/18	65.6	2.2	70	64
2018/19	*	*	*	*
Labour Economics and Inequality				
2019/20	*	*	*	*
2020/21	*	*	*	*
2021/22	*	*	*	*
Macroeconomics				
2017/18	63.6	5.2	76	45
2018/19	65.5	5.0	77	56
2019/20	65.4	6.6	76	42
2020/21	65.1	6.8	80	31
2021/22	64.5	8.4	77	15
Marketing				
2017/18	65.8	3.9	75	58
2018/19	66.6	3.5	72	58
2019/20	66.0	3.4	72	58
2020/21	66.5	3.7	75	58

2021/22	64.2	9.8	73	3
Microeconomic Analysis				
2017/18	67.2	11.0	89	51
2018/19	66.8	12.1	81	38
2019/20	75.3	9.5	85	56
2020/21	65.7	7.7	77	52
2021/22	65.0	11.8	78	44
Microeconomics				
2017/18	63.8	6.3	83	41
2018/19	67.1	7.1	81	40
2019/20	67.4	7.5	88	40
2020/21	66.0	7.1	82	45
2021/22	63.5	9.4	78	26
Money and Banking				
2017/18	66.6	4.0	74	59
2018/19	66.8	2.8	73	60
2019/20	66.4	4.2	73	54
2020/21	64.6	3.4	72	57
2021/22	65.3	6.2	74	43
Organizational Behaviour and Analysis				
2017/18	66.2	4.9	80	55
2018/19	67.4	2.4	72	63
2019/20	66.8	3.6	73	56
2020/21	66.7	5.0	85	58
2021/22	64.8	7.7	73	25
Public Economics				
2017/18	63.8	3.4	70	58
2018/19	65.8	3.3	70	61
2019/20	67.3	1.9	70	66
2020/21	64.0	3.2	69	57
2021/22	64.5	3.5	68	58
Quantitative Economics				
2017/18	62.5	8.3	86	33
2018/19	65.7	9.8	84	41
2019/20	62.9	8.1	82	40
2020/21	63.0	10.0	87	30
2021/22	62.2	9.9	76	10
Special Subject in Economics: Environmental Economics and Climate Change				
2019/20	69.2	2.9	74	65
2020/21	*	*	*	*
2021/22	66.8	4.6	76	59

Strategic Management				
2017/18	67.5	2.9	75	58
2018/19	67.7	2.4	72	62
2019/20	66.9	3.0	73	60
2020/21	67.8	2.9	75	59
2021/22	67.7	2.5	73	61
Technology and Operations Management				
2017/18	67.9	5.8	80	57
2018/19	67.5	3.8	76	60
2019/20	68.8	2.8	75	65
2020/21	68.6	3.0	73	62
2021/22	64.3	4.8	74	44
Thesis				
2017/18	64.6	3.9	67	57
2018/19	*	*	*	*
2019/20	*	*	*	*
2020/21	*	*	*	*
2021/22	*	*	*	*